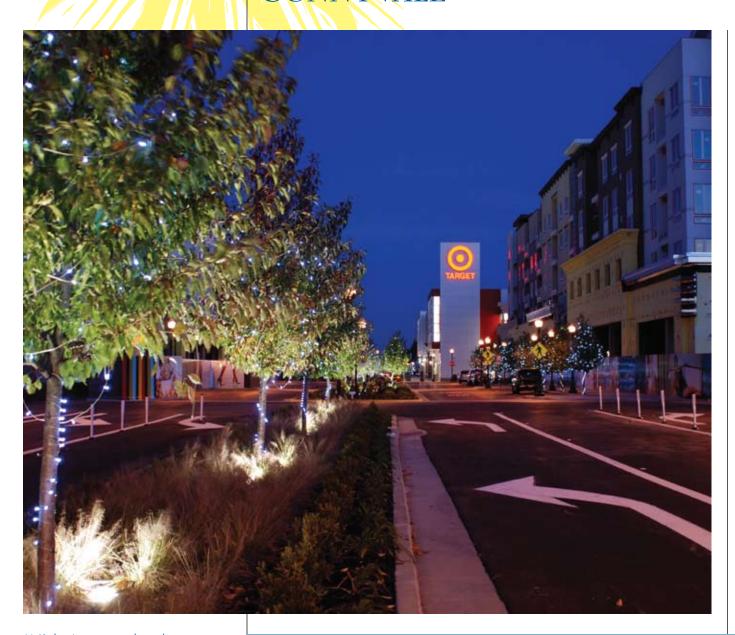
QUARTERLY REPORT



CITY OF SUNNYVALE

WINTER 2010

Shopping Returns To Downtown Sunnyvale



hopping returned to
Downtown Sunnyvale in a
big way on November 15,
as the new 170,000 squarefoot Target store staged a
grand opening. The store is
a larger, more modern version of the
Target store that occupied the site
until January 2009.

The Target store, located at McKinley Avenue and Taafe Street, is one of only 12 new stores opened by Target this year, and it features a new store design. Gone are the boxy corners of a traditional Target store, now replaced with sweeping lines. Target has adopted the new design for construction of their new stores.

After working with stakeholders to pump an additional \$8 million into work to finish roadways, curbs, gutters and the installation of lighting and landscaping, the City reopened the downtown streets that were closed more than 30 years ago to accommodate the old Town Center mall. These streets - McKinley Avenue, Taaffe Street and a portion of Murphy Avenue – provide easy access to the new store and a new four-level parking garage built next to it. The streets also provide access to Macy's and the new parking garage next to Macy's, which also serves shoppers and diners visiting Historic Murphy Avenue. 🗘

McKinley Avenue at night, with a view of Sunnyvale's new Target store.



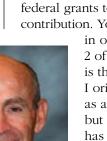
THE BRIEFING

Notes From Your City Manager

s I complete my first year on the job as Sunnyvale's city manager, I would like to let you know how that year has gone. It's been an important

year for the City, and an exciting one for me, professionally. In spite of the dismal economy, we have scored some major successes and the City is moving forward to a stable financial future in a world of financial turmoil.

By now almost
everyone has heard
of Sunnyvale Works! We
launched this program
last April to accomplish two goals:
accelerate our capital improvements
programs and create local
construction jobs in the process.
The two unexpected benefits we



City Manager Gary Luebbers

received were that construction bids have come in some 30 percent lower than expected, and we have been very successful in receiving state and federal grants to match our financial contribution. You'll see more details

in our news story on page 2 of this edition, but here is the tremendous success: I originally planned this as a \$60 million program, but as of this writing, it has topped \$100 million. We are in the position to complete work that was originally planned to take place in two, three or four years from now at a savings of nearly one-

third of the projected cost. I anticipated the bidding climate produced by the poor economy would net far more for our money; that theory proved accurate and the City has been the beneficiary. Dire

times often present opportunities; the key to success is seizing it. Sunnyvale did. We are a model for the intent of President Obama's stimulus program.

In November, Target opened their brand new store in downtown. The new store, at 170,000 square feet, is larger than the store they replaced, and it is proving to be a hit with customers. This is really important for our City. Target will bring in shoppers to downtown and that will benefit all our downtown shops and restaurants. A lot of sales at Target will translate into more sales tax income for the City, something we certainly need during this current economy. And the store will be a sterling example of the benefits of conducting business in Sunnyvale for future prospective Town Center tenants.

See "Briefing", page 4



CITY OF SUNNYVALE WINTER 2010

Sunnyvale City Council

Anthony (Tony) Spitaleri, Mayor Christopher R. Moylan, Vice Mayor John Howe Melinda Hamilton Ron Swegles David Whittum Dean J. Chu*

* Appointed to Council while Councilmember Lee serves on active military duty.

City Manager

Gary Luebbers

Assistant City Manager Robert Walker

Assistant to the City Manager Coryn Campbell

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Thank you for your feedback!

Quarterly Report is online at

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Sunnyvale Library to Close Three Weeks for Renovation

unnyvale Public Library will close March 7 through March 21 for renovation. When the Library reopens, it will feature some major new improvements, including:

Automated Materials Handling System

The new system will checkin the more than 2.5 million items borrowed each year and automatically sort returns into bins so items can be returned to the shelf faster. Items are instantly checked in and removed from your account, and an optional receipt may be printed.

Six New Self-checks

Checkout will be faster because

multiple items can be checked out at once using radio frequency identification (RFID) tags on materials. Customers may now also pay fines using one of the self-checkout machines.

Technology Center

The Library's PCs and printers will be consolidated into one central location, providing easier access.

One-stop Service Point

The Library has combined the reference desk and circulation desk into one central location in order to serve you more efficiently.

More Computers

An additional 10 PCs will be added to allow more users to access the Internet at any given time.

More Space for Your Laptop

New counters and electrical outlets will be available for laptop users. It'll be easier to take advantage of the Library's free Wi-Fi.

More Space for Reading

Magazines and newspapers will no longer share space with computers, providing quiet room for reading.

Library materials will not be due during the dates. We appreciate your patience as we work to provide you with better service. •

Sunnyvale Launches Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team (NEAT)

he City of Sunnyvale's new
Neighborhood Enhancement
Program Team (NEAT) is up
and running. In November,
NEAT began work in the
Columbia Neighborhood
Center area with several community
outreach meetings, and began
projects to improve façades for

local small businesses and address graffiti issues. NEAT works with residents, businesses, property owners and neighborhood groups to identify and resolve issues. NEAT works to improve the quality of life in Sunnyvale neighborhoods by bringing community members together, providing access to grants and loans, and offering public education on neighborhood enhancement issues aimed at improving the quality of life in Sunnyvale neighborhoods. For more information, call (408) 245-NEAT (6238), visit Neat.inSunnyvale.com or e-mail neat@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us. ③

Sunnyvale Works! Tops \$100M

n its first eight months of existence, Sunnyvale Works! has exploded from an estimated \$60 million in capital improvement projects to more than \$100 million. When City Manager Gary Luebbers first announced his innovative program last April, the plan was to consolidate as many capital improvement projects as possible into a short time span. Ideally, the City would be able to move projects up as many as four or five years to get work started this year and create new jobs now, while the economy is in such poor shape.

The unexpected benefit has been lower-than-expected bids from construction companies vying for the work. Typical bids have come in as much as 30 percent below estimates. The City's Public Works and Finance staff have leveraged those savings, along with funding from a significant number of grants to swell the program.

"We are in the enviable position of having enough grant money that we are barely touching our basic budget, "explained Assistant Director of Public Works Mark Rogge. "We have more than \$100 million in projects that we are lining up under *Sunnyvale Works!* Thus far, we have now awarded projects totaling an estimated \$68 million in costs. But

because of the extraordinarily low bids submitted by contractors, the actual awards have totaled only \$45 million, saving about 32 percent. We have received \$39 million in grants, so the City's budget is only being impacted by about \$6 million to complete these projects."

Sunnyvale Works! has enabled the City to spend more than \$50 million this fiscal year alone on bridge work. Two new bicycle and pedestrian bridges were built over U.S. 101 and SR 237. The Wolfe Road Bridge had new bearing pads – part of the support system – replaced, forcing a month-long road closure.

Next up is the Mathilda Avenue Bridge over Caltrain, which will be one of the larger projects the City will undertake. The completed bridge will feature a totally new Evelyn off ramp that will allow traffic to continue east or west on Evelyn. New ADA-compliant pedestrian access will be part of the new structure and lanes will be widened. This project has already gone to bid, and the 18-month project should get under way in January or February.

The Fair Oaks Bridge, which will receive deck work and new pedestrian access, is in the City's 2010/11 budget, but work will actually start as soon as grant funding is received.

Downtown Sunnyvale Work

Historic Murphy Avenue is still on target to be completed in April. Replacement of underground pipes required tearing up the street. With the completion of that phase of work, the street was filled back in and is being used as a pedestrian walkway as the sidewalks are now the focus of work. When completed, a new streetscape will adorn Murphy Avenue, with pavers in the street and colored cement sidewalks. Trees will be maintained, but other items such as trash receptacles and benches will be redesigned. New street lamps will be installed and gateway entry arches will span both ends of the historic block.

The opening of the new Target store has reinvigorated shopping. The store features a new design and at 170,000 square feet, there is a larger shopping area than the old store it replaced. Elsewhere in downtown, the court-appointed receiver for the Town Center property has been busy protecting the buildings from winter rain storms. As of this writing, there is no new information from the receiver about his next step for the property. \bigcirc

Exciting New Grocery Stores Coming to Sunnyvale

inding farm-fresh, locally grown produce will get even easier this summer, when Sunnyvale becomes home to the first Sprouts Farmers Market in Northern California. Sprouts, which is one of the fastest-growing retailers in the country, specializes in

farm-fresh produce,
fresh seafood,
natural and organic
groceries, an onsite bakery, fine

wine and many other products. Sprouts will occupy the site previously occupied by Circuit City at the corner of El Camino Real and South Sunnyvale Avenue.

In addition to Sprouts, Sunnyvale will also welcome Fresh & Easy to Sunnyvale in the summer of 2010. Fresh & Easy is a local neighborhood store that provides fresh and wholesome food at budget prices. Fresh & Easy will bring much-needed grocery shopping to northern Sunnyvale.



THE HAPPIEST PLACE IN AMERICA? IT'S SUNNYVALE!

See the CBS-5 news story on

Sunnyvale being named the

happiest place in America.

www.bit.ly/happycity

he City of Sunnyvale, longknown as the Heart of Silicon Valley, can now add a new accolade: The Happiest Place in America. And it must be true,

because Dr. Oz, a popular television physician who deals with a wide variety of informational topics on his Fox TV Dr. Oz Show, gave the nod to Sunnyvale. In his show, Dr. Oz says that he looked for the happiest city in America and, with some help from the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, he found Sunnyvale.

The show, which aired November 9, featured Julia Blom, owner of Sunnyvale's Country Gourmet restaurant, who talked

about Sunnyvale.

The survey that contributed to Dr.
Oz's acknowledgment of Sunnyvale

ranks factors that help measure wellbeing in America's rural and urban communities. The poll studies not only the absence of infirmity and disease, but also a state of physical,

mental and social well-being.

According to Dr. Oz Show Publicity Executive Jenifer Rogers, Dr. Oz spotlighted Sunnyvale as the Happiest Place in America. Dr. Oz included Blom and a woman from Hazard, Kentucky, a city in the area ranked as the Least Happy Place in America, and let them switch places. The show explored whether the physical

location of where a person lives has an impact on that person's way of life. Researcher Sonja Lyubomirsky helped Dr. Oz reveal the five steps to happiness. ③

The Sunnyvale store will be about 15,000 square feet, but will carry everything customers need to do their weekly shopping. Fresh & Easy currently has stores in Southern California, Arizona, and Nevada. ©

SHOP SUNNYVALE AUTO ROW

The auto dealers on El Camino Real are a vital business group to the City and continue to be an important revenue source. During the last fiscal year, the Auto Row dealerships generated \$2.7 million in tax revenues. With nationwide auto sales down as much as 40 percent, current-year revenues to the City will be lower than the City has enjoyed in the past.

The recent closure of Sunnyvale Chevrolet and Huyndai is a big loss to the City and will have a fiscal impact. Owners of GM vehicles can still get authorized service in Sunnyvale at Pearson Buick, GMC Auto Group.

In addition to GMC products, Sunnyvale Auto Row is also home to Acura, Ford, Honda, SAAB, Toyota and VW dealerships.

Next time you are in the market for a new car, remember to Shop Sunnyvale – and keep your tax dollars local. Visit *shop.inSunnyvale.com* for a listing of shopping opportunities in Sunnyvale.



2010 STUDY ISSUES KEY DATES

Sunnyvale's study issues process provides both City Council and City staff with a valuable planning and management tool. Through this process, Council sets priorities to address the large number of policy issues raised each year, and gives staff the tools to thoroughly study an issue while continuing to deliver vital City services. For more information about study issues, please visit *Studylssues.inSunnyvale.com*.

Tentative key dates for the 2010 Study Issues Process include:

January 5 Study Issues/Budget Issues Public Hearing, 7 p.m.

January 29 Study Issues/Budget Issues Workshop, 8:30 a.m.

February 23 Study/Budget Issues and Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar RTC presentation

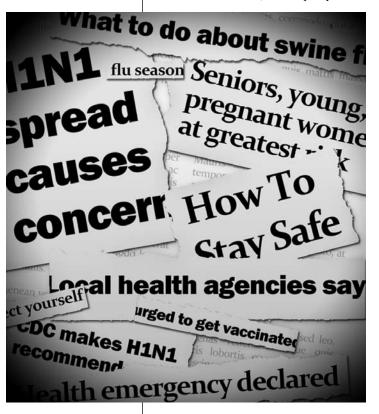
These are tentative dates and are subject to change. The public hearing and workshop will take place in the Council Chambers, 456 W. Olive Ave., and will be shown live on KSUN-15 and on the Web at Webcasting.inSunnyvale.com. The Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar (TCMAC), an up-to-date schedule of Council meetings, can be found at TCMAC.inSunnyvale.com.

H1N1 Virus: Facts You Need to Know

he 2009 H1N1 (originally dubbed "swine flu") virus was first detected in people in the United States in April 2009. This virus is spreading personto-person worldwide, probably in much the same way regular seasonal influenza spread. On June 11, 2009, the World Health Organization signaled that a pandemic of 2009 H1N1 flu was underway.

Illness with the new H1N1 virus has ranged from mild to severe. While most people who have been sick have recovered without needing medical treatment, hospitalizations and deaths from this virus have occurred.

In seasonal flu, some people are



at high risk of serious complications. This includes those 65 years and older, children younger than five-years-old, pregnant women and people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions. About 70 percent of people who have been hospitalized with 2009 H1N1 virus have had one or more medical conditions previously recognized as placing them at high risk of serious seasonal flu-related complications. This includes pregnancy, diabetes, heart disease, asthma and kidney disease.

One thing that appears to be different from seasonal influenza is that adults older than 64 years do not yet appear to be at increased risk of 2009 H1N1-related complications. CDC laboratory studies have shown that no children and very few adults younger than 60-years-old, have existing antibody to the virus; however, about one-third of adults older than 60 may have antibodies against this virus. It is unknown how much, if any, protection may be afforded against 2009 H1N1 flu by any existing antibody.

What can you do to protect yourself and your family? Santa Clara County Public Health Officer Marty Fenstersheib recommends that everyone get a flu shot. This will not protect you from the H1N1 virus, but will protect from the flu and may lessen the impact on our medical system. Stay informed. Follow the media reports regarding this disease.

It's important to watch for the first signs of influenza in a family or household member because the sooner you start caring for the sick person, the better. And once the first signs of flu appear, you can take action you need to control the spread of disease in your home. Symptoms may start with high fever, chills, muscle aches or pain, and a general tiredness.

You can help prevent the spread of the disease by practicing good hygiene:

- Wash your hands often using soap and water.
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue when coughing or sneezing. Cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Put used tissues in trash and then wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; germs spread this way.
- If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.) Keep away from others as much as possible to keep from making others sick.
- Stay home when you are sick and stay away from others as much as possible.
- Keep sick children home from school.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

For more information regarding seasonal influenza and H1N1, visit Santa Clara County Public Health Department at www.sccphd.org. •

Briefing, continued from page 1

Also in December, Dr. Oz, host of the Dr. Oz Show which is viewed by 2.5 million people across the nation, proclaimed Sunnyvale the "Happiest Town in America." That came as no surprise to me. I have loved Sunnyvale from the first time I visited. As both the city manager and a resident, I have found our community to be spirited, involved and inviting with an abundance of civic pride. It's truly a wonderful place to live.

But in my first year managing the City, we faced a huge hurdle, one that will take a couple more years to really fix. The City's budget was in stress, an obvious candidate for better efficiency and focused direction. Working with my staff, I immediately started trimming away some unnecessary functions. The Matrix Group had already been commissioned to perform an optimal staffing study, and I expanded that. In other words, they were to make recommendations as to how we could best use our staff in service to our community. This process was originally scheduled to be completed over a span of years. A drawn-out process was not in our best interest. Every day that passed was one of

missed opportunity. I expedited the process.

The Matrix Group took my lead and completed their report in record time. Many of their recommendations were very sound and have already been adopted. Other changes are yet to come. Using the Matrix report as well as input from staff and management. we are successfully tightening our belt. When a city's budget does not easily balance, there are really only two strategies to pursue: increase revenues and reduce costs. I want to assure every member of our community that we are reviewing every expenditure, every cost, and looking for better, faster and more efficient ways to do business. Often times it takes just such an environment as we now face to force that critical look. We will be better for it. Sunnyvale's long history as a premier place to live remains a reality. Our focus will be to reduce service while providing our residents with excellent facilities and services.

You should also know that City Council has not authorized spending a single cent from the City's Reserve Fund. That fund, equal to 20 percent of our annual operating budget, is

for a dire emergency only. What we have used to balance the budget is our Budget Stabilization Fund. This is a special fund much like a savings account. We pay into it in the good years, and draw it down in the leaner years. It is part of the City's excellent management system that has served us well. But having a Budget Stabilization Fund only helps, it does not solve the problem of keeping us in sound financial shape. The changes I have, and will, make to the structure of our departments will put us on the right track to solidify our financial stability into the future. I believe the model of economic ebbs and flows is in transition. A fundamental approach to budget development has to consider our new world economy.

One of the more important actions we are now undertaking is an update to our Land Use and Transportation Element, or LUTE, of the General Plan. The LUTE will be the document that will guide Council and staff for decades to come. Land use and transportation have both been major issues in Sunnyvale, and as our population continues to grow within

See "Briefing", page 5

Sunnyvale to Host Hershey's Track and Field Games

he City of Sunnyvale will host its first Hershey's Track and Field Games on June 5 at Fremont High School. This is a free event for boys and girls ages 9 - 14. Youth from every athletic level will have the opportunity to compete in up to three events in track and field including the 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 800-meter run, 1,600-meter run, 4x100-meter relay, standing long jump and softball throw.

The Hershey's Track and Field Games, which has been a national event for more than 30 years, was initiated as a playground track and field program in 1975 by Dr. Donald P. Cohen. Hershey's Track and Field Games has become the largest youth sports program of its kind in North America.



A recent report released by Nielsen Wire found that 6 to 11-year-old children watch more than 28 hours of television per week, on average. That is a whole day out of every week. Children's health advocates have warned that increased television watching is linked to delayed language skills and increasing rates of childhood obesity. This event, and the activities that will be conducted leading up to it, are just one strategy for getting children away from the television and outside, having fun and being physically active.

The City of Sunnyvale is working with local schools and other agencies to help prepare youth for the event. If you or your organization is interested in volunteering or donating to this event, contact David Lewis, Director of Community Services, at *dlewis@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us*. For more information about the Hershey's Track and Field Games, contact Gary Brown,

Recreation Coordinator, at *gbrown@ci.sunnyvale. ca.us.* §



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Briefing, continued from page 4

the confines of our city, the policies put forth in the LUTE will be vitally important to maintaining our quality of life.

I could not write this column for you without touching on the Town Center redevelopment project. While it is certainly heartening to see the new Target open and be so well received by the community, that does not solve the larger problem. The site is nearly 40 percent complete. The developer built quickly; but then the worldwide economic crisis shut off the flow of investment capital into commercial development, such as Town Center. The project went into foreclosure and subsequently the court appointed a receiver to manage the process.

While it may not sound perfect, there is a silver lining. When the development stagnated, I was deeply concerned about potential rain damage to the structures. Once the receiver was appointed, one of his first steps was to work with Wachovia/Wells Fargo to begin weatherproofing the buildings against the coming winter rains. The good news in all of this is that with the lending bank moving

to take control of the project, they are interested in protecting their investment. And to a bank, protection does not mean just letting it sit unfinished. It means getting the project built and achieving a return on the investment as originally contemplated. As I continue to meet on a frequent basis with the bank, I look forward to the potential this project has. Not just for the projected \$2 million in annual sales tax revenues, but also for the amenities the project will offer the community.

Yes, my first year has been an "E-ticket ride." My wife and I have felt an enormous sense of welcome from the community. My staff of nearly 1,000 has been extraordinarily cooperative, and City Council has provided unqualified support. The City has made some remarkable progress this year, and I believe the City is moving in the right direction to maintain our financial stability. I am continually heartened by the level of involvement our community has with City Hall. But the really great news is not so much what we have accomplished, but what lies ahead. 🗘

SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE WORKSHOPS

Interested in starting a business in Sunnyvale?

Attend a free business workshop hosted by Sunnyvale's Economic Development Division. The following free workshops will be held Wednesday, January 13.

Business Entity Choice Tax and Evaluating Franchises

Both workshops will be held in the Sunnyvale Public Library Program Room, 665 W. Olive Ave.



Registration is due by Thursday, January 8

To register, or for more information, contact the Economic Development Division at *econdev@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us* or (408) 760-7607, TDD: (408) 730-7501.

FOR ALL
CITY SERVICES,
TDD ACCESS
(408) 730-7501

Onstage at Sunnyvale Theatre

ark your calendar for these upcoming shows at Sunnyvale Theatre. There's something for everyone!

January 9

National champion harmonica player, ukulele wizard and storyteller Lil' Rev revives old Tin Pan Alley standards, American folk tunes, Yiddish and Jewish songs and stories, labor anthems and quilting songs.

February 6 - March 13

California Theatre Center presents family matinees of *Miss Nelson is Missing*, a musical comedy based on the popular picture book about



a teacher who teaches her rude students a lesson.

February 13

Brasil Brazil brings colorful and authentic samba music to coincide with Carnaval, Brazil's version of the Mardi Gras celebration.

February 26 - March 21

Sunnyvale Community Players presents *High School Musical 2*, a live version of the hit Disney movie.

March 27

Celtic harper and storyteller Patrick Ball, a favorite with Sunnyvale audiences for 19 years, celebrates his birthday with fans by sharing memories of his own pilgrimage to Ireland.

For specific show times, tickets or other information, check online at *Arts.inSunnyvale.com*, or call the box office at (408) 733-6611. Sunnyvale Theatre is located at the Community Center, 550 E. Remington Drive. ③

New Kung Fu

esolve to improve both your physical and mental fitness in 2010, with Sunnyvale Recreation's new Kung Fu Workout, Thursdays, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Ortega Park.

This class incorporates a wide variety of martial arts punch, palm, kick, stance and footwork techniques from popular Kung Fu styles. No prior martial arts experience is required, making this an excellent opportunity for teens and adults who have always wanted to try Kung Fu to learn more about it.



longtime Taijiquan
instructor Larry
Young, who also
serves as a judge for
martial arts tournaments throughout
the Bay Area.

Cost is \$59 for residents, \$69 for non-residents.

Register for Kung Fu Workout class #448910.MP online at *RecreationClasses.inSunnyvale.com*, or in person at the Community Center. •

PLAN NOW FOR SUMMER CAMP

It's not too early to make plans for the summer. In fact, you may find that you have more time on your hands as a result of planning in advance. Sunnyvale's new summer camp offerings will be unveiled in the spring *Activity Guide*, which will be delivered to all Sunnyvale residents the first week of February.

The City offers more than 200 camps and classes designed to help educate, strengthen and grow both you and your child, and create lasting summer memories. For more information, visit *Recreation.inSunnyvale.com* after February 2, or call (408) 730-7350, TDD (408) 730-7501.

HOLIDAY EXTRAS – DONATE

Need some new ideas about where to donate?

TO YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY

Check the Recycling Program's Recycling A to Z at www.sunnyvalerecycles.org.

SENIOR TRIPS

wo new trips – Pick up a flyer, or visit *Seniors*. *inSunnyvale.com*, select *Trips* and read about all the day and extended trips we offer.

Great Britain and the Emerald

Isle, Featuring London, Scotland and Ireland, is April 20 – May 5. This is a custom trip no one else is offering, with limited space, so don't miss out. This 16-day trip includes 22 meals, gratuities and trip cancellation insurance. Price is \$6,325 per person, double occupancy, or \$7,300, single occupancy.

Oregon Trails, June 10 –15. Featuring the Portland Rose Festival, city tour of Portland, Mount St. Helen's Volcanic National Monument and the Johnston Ridge Observatory, Oregon's scenic Pacific Coast, Multnomah Falls, a Columbia River Gorge cruise aboard a sternwheeler and Bonneville Dam. This six-day, five-night trip includes eight meals, gratuities and trip cancellation insurance. Price is \$1,867 per person, double occupancy, or \$2,367, single occupancy.

We need your input. Visit *Seniors.inSunnyvale.com* and find our *Future Trips Interest List*. Print it, fill it out and mail or bring it to the Senior Center. The trips with the most interest will be offered. Add your name and phone number so you can be contacted. •



COMMUNITY KIDS CAMP TEACHES KIDS TO CARE FOR THEIR COMMUNITY, TOO

unnyvale strives to provide residents a safe and healthy community, and what better place to start than with educating the youngest members of our community about the importance of good health habits, personal safety and community involvement?

Sunnyvale's Departments of Community Services and Public Safety have teamed up to offer kids a fun, week-long camp that stresses staying safe, being healthy and contributing to the community.

"Community awareness and involvement help kids realize that being part of a community means taking responsibility for their own safety and well being, as well as the safety and well being of their families, neighbors and classmates," said camp organizer Kristin Dance. Last year, more than 75 kids learned valuable life skills through fun, engaging activities led by police

and fire personnel and children's health and safety experts.

"We wanted to promote the great resources available through community programs," said Dance. "We introduced the kids to our recycling and pollution reduction services, emergency preparedness and basic first aid, as well important community establish-ments such as our local park system, the Heritage Park Museum, the Charles Street community garden, and a Sunnyvale fire house." The camp also visited the Sunnyvale Civic Center and Department of Public Safety, including a visit to the jail cells and crime lab.

This year, organizers will include favorite activities such as the bicycle obstacle course, firehouse and Public Safety tours, nutrition relays and games, and a mock city council meeting. New activities will include a collaborative community mural project led by a professional artist.

Camp participants must be currently enrolled in first through sixth grade and be between ages 7- and 12-years-old. A sack lunch is required each day, but healthy snacks will be provided.

Tuesday – Friday, February 16 – 19, (Sunnyvale School District winter recess)

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Washington Park Building, 840 W. Washington Ave.

\$160; non-residents \$170

Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC) will sponsor a repeat of Community Kids camp at its location, 739 Morse Ave., over the spring break, April 12 – 16, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. The spring camp is only open to students attending Columbia Middle School, Bishop, Lakewood, Fairwood and San Miguel elementary schools, and will be offered at low cost, thanks to a subsidy from CNC.

For more information, contact the Department of Community Services at (408) 730-7350, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit *Recreation.inSunnyvale.com.* •

CITY SEEKS ARTISTS FOR ANNUAL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

isual and performing artists who are passionate about their crafts are needed to share their arts and hearts with children at the City's 25th annual Hands on the Arts Festival. The festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, at the Sunnyvale Community Center. Those whose can share genres unique to a particular culture are strongly encouraged to apply.

The all-day Hands on the Arts festival is one of Sunnyvale's signature events, typically drawing more than 1,000 children, ages 3 to 12, and their families to participate in dozens of hands-on workshops.

Both new and returning and artists are welcome and are encouraged to submit proposals

for simple, fun and educational workshops and projects children can complete in 30 minutes or less.

Artists are selected through a jury process to ensure that a variety of genres and cultures are represented. Those who are selected are paid a stipend for the day and receive a commemorative Hands on the Arts T-shirt. Supplies required for their projects are provided by the City and prepared by City arts staff and volunteers. The day of the festival, artists are assisted at their booths by community volunteers.

For an artist application or more information, contact artist coordinator Tegan McLane at (408) 730-7725, TDD (408) 730-7501 or e-mail tmclane@ci.sunnyvale. ca.us. •

New Pajama Party Theater for Kids, Teens

et those Broadway babies down to Sunnyvale Theatre this winter for the new Pajama Party Theatre series. Four consecutive Friday evenings of singing, dancing and acting culminate in a show onstage for parents and friends.

Pajama Party Theatre is directed by Amy Zsadanyi, with choreographer Esther Selk and music director Joanne Rose, the same talented team that produces Sunnyvale Recreation's popular Musical Theater Camp programs. All experienced classroom teachers and professionals, have an exceptional knack for bringing out the best in every young performer in a very short time.

Cost is \$99 for residents, \$119 for non-residents. Register for Pajama Party Theatre Class #424620.FP online at *RecreationClasses.inSunnyvale.com*, or in person at the Community Center. •

BILINGUAL STORY TIMES

Help your child develop a love of books, in both English and Spanish, by attending Columbia Neighborhood Center's (CNC) bilingual story times. A family story time for all ages is held at CNC Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Families with toddlers are welcome to join us for story times at 8 a.m. Thursdays at San Miguel School.

If these times are not convenient, the City also offers Dial-a-Story, where children can hear a new story recorded by our children's librarians each week. To hear stories in English, call (408) 730-7333, or (408) 737-4907 for stories in Spanish.



KEEPING UP WITH THE INTERNET

eeping up with the latest online developments can be a challenge. Luckily, the Sunnyvale Public Library is here to help with free classes and programs that will bring you up to speed with social networking and the World Wide Web. Classes are from one to two hours long and in most cases, no registration – or experience – is necessary.

Want to get started with social networking, but not sure how? The Library's *Facebook Basics* class demonstrates how to create a Facebook profile and get the most out of this free social networking site. In *Facebook Basics*, you'll learn how to connect with other Facebook users, join groups, use applications and protect your privacy.

Looking for a job, apartment or stuff to buy? The Library's *Craigslist 101* class provides a virtual tour of the community bulletin board known as Craigslist, where users buy, sell, rent and hire. You'll learn tips for posting and replying to ads, as well as how to avoid common scams.

The Library's *Blogs & Blogging* class will introduce you to the world of online expression, while our

more advanced session, *Blogging: Next Steps*, can help turn your blog into an Internet phenomenon, with tips for obtaining your own domain name and managing multiple contributors.

Searching the Internet will help you find the information you want in minutes. And the Extreme Googling class at the Library is a great way to keep up to date with offerings from Google – from search tips and tricks, to maps, to "apps."

If all this sounds a little advanced for you, or you're just getting

started online, never fear. Make an appointment with the Library's volunteer Internet tutor for an hour of help with e-mail or Web browsing. Just call or visit the reference desk to request a tutoring session. And remember, Library computers are always available to practice your Web surfing skills ... and maybe check your new Facebook page. For the current schedule of Library classes, visit *LibraryClasses*. *inSunnyvale.com*, or call (408) 730-7300 (option 5). ③



PAINTERS WELCOME

ainters of all skill levels and painting media are invited to participate in the Creative Arts Center's Open Paint Studio.

Located at the Sunnyvale Community Center, this program provides a well-lit space with lots of room to work and an inspiring view of the center's sprawling grounds. There is no formal instruction, but plenty of camaraderie from fellow painters is available. For more information, contact Kristin Dance

at (408) 730-7758 or kdance@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

Mondays, 9 a.m. – noon

Sunnyvale Community Center, 550 E. Remington Drive

Creative Arts Center, Paint Room

\$5 drop-in fee will be collected at the door

Bring your own painting or drawing supplies

GET CREDIT FOR GOOD - VOLUNTEER!

Teens may get service credits for helping with special events, youth programs and public safety. It is not too early to apply for the summer teen program. Apply online to become a volunteer with the City of Sunnyvale, or call Volunteer Resources at (408) 730-7533, TDD (408) 730-7501, for more information. Visit TeenVolunteering.inSunnyvale.com and apply today.

Where Can I Get a Good Laugh?

AND OTHER INTERESTING QUESTIONS FROM THE LIBRARY

ave you ever been stumped by a tough question? Librarians love that feeling! Every day, the Sunnyvale Public Library's reference staff helps people with their pressing information needs. We've got the tools – reference books, databases and the Internet – to help you find what you need. Here is a small sampling of the types of questions the Library answers every day.

Q: What should I do with my water-damaged money?

A: It depends on how damaged the currency is. If it is clearly more than one-half the original note, or does not require special examination to determine the value, it is not considered mutilated and can be exchanged at any local bank. Mutilated currency must be mailed or personally delivered to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. (U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, www.bep.treas.gov)

Q: There is a novel about a girl with a bell-shaped birthmark. I think the author's first name is Marilyn. Can you help me find this book?

A: Lost and Found by Marilyn Harris, published in 1991. A young orphan girl with a bell-shaped birthmark is separated from her adopted family during the Great Depression. She goes on to have a series of adventures and experiences, while her family never stops searching for her. (Search for "bell shaped birthmark" at books.google.com.)

Q: Do you have information on applying for a provisional patent?

A: There is a provisional patent application, but not a provisional patent. A provisional application for a utility patent allows you to claim "patent pending" and can be useful in establishing that you were the first to file a U.S. patent application. (www.uspto.gov)

Q: There is a tree on my street with veiny leaves, and droopy yellow flowers that look like seeds. Is there a book with pictures that will help me identify it?

A: The tree is quite possibly a European Hop Hornbeam. It is a part of the Birch family, and originally from southern Europe and Asia Minor. (*The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Trees*, by David More and John White. Call number R 582.1603 M)

Q: I haven't had a laugh in a while. Can you recommend a funny movie?

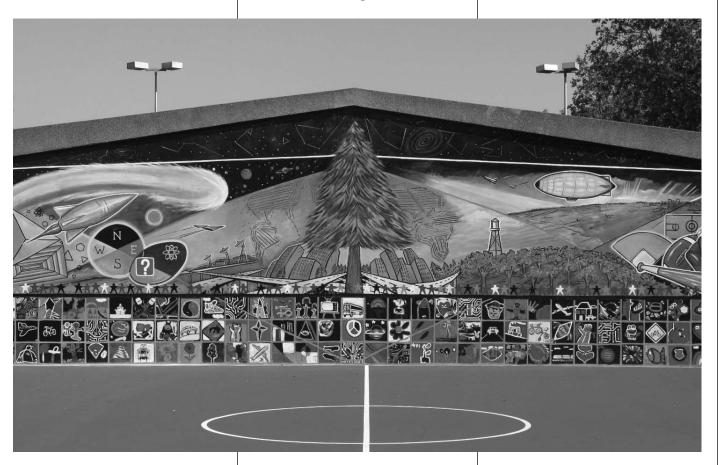
A: The Library is always happy to make book or DVD recommendations. Just stop by the Reference Desk and tell us your likes and dislikes. We'll try to find a title that's right for you.

So, whether the mystery you are solving is big or small, give the Library a try.

Lakewood Mural Gets a Facelift

he Lakewood Community
Mural recently received a
facelift after enduring years
of sun, wind and rain. Artist
Roberto Salas completed the
mural in 1993 as part of a
collaborative effort, working sideby-side with community members

from the surrounding Lakewood neighborhood. Upon returning to Sunnyvale to perform the restoration, Salas was amazed at how well the artwork held up. Salas had a visitor while he was working, a neighborhood resident who had worked on the original mural as a young child. Together, the two found the resident's original contribution to the mural made more than 16 years ago. If you're in the neighborhood, check it out at Lakewood Park, 834 Lakechime Drive, near the handball courts. ③



WINTER 2010 PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

Blended Families/ Step-Parenting

(Class offered only in Spanish) Estrategias para Padres en la Crianza de Hijastros en Familias Mezcladas

January 13

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Columbia Middle School, Classroom 33 739 Morse Ave.

Speaker: Alicia Becerra Mendoza, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, from the Children's Health Council.

This workshop will discuss issues characteristic of the blended-family experience, including establishing parental roles, coping with stepparenting challenges and steps to building a strong, cohesive family unit amid change.

Parenting Through Separation and Divorce

February 10

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunnyvale Public Library, 665 W. Olive Ave.

Speaker: Nancy Klimp, Marriage Family Child Therapist from Family and Children's Services.

This workshop will discuss how to parent though the transition of

separation and divorce. Strategies for sharing parenting responsibilities, parenting from dual households, and coping with the stressors and challenges of separation and divorce will be explored.

Blended Families/ Step-Parenting

March 10

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunnyvale City Hall West Conference Room 456 W. Olive Ave.

Speaker: Janice Shapiro, Marriage, Family Therapist Trainee, from John F. Kennedy University.

Parents will learn about stepfamily developmental stages and to normalize the step-family as a family unit. This workshop will also explore issues that are characteristic of the blended-family experience including establishing parental roles, coping with step-parenting challenges, and steps to building a strong, cohesive family unit amid change.

Child care is not available for these workshops, but children may attend with a parent, if needed.

To register, call (408) 523-8150, or email *childcareresources@ ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.* ③

CLASSES FOR CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS

Offered by UC Davis Extension and the City of Sunnyvale

Scientific Inquiry for Young Children

Saturday, January 9, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

This course encourages participants to examine ways to provide a rich science environment for children. Participants explore everyday science and practice principles of inquiry and documentation to enhance discovery and scientific learning.

Supporting Emergent Readers and Writers Saturday, March 20, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Using a child-centered approach, this course focuses on the development of literacy skills needed for the transition to kindergarten. Participants will learn more about the components needed for children to learn to read and write. Recommendations for the creation of a print-rich environment and appropriate literacy activities are examined.

Location: Sunnyvale Community Center, Neighborhood Room – 550 E. Remington Drive

To Register: Call (408) 523-8150 ext. 22, or e-mail childcareresources@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

FOR ALL CITY SERVICES, TDD ACCESS (408) 730-7501

SAFE DISPOSAL OF FLUORESCENT BULBS, HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES AND OTHER MERCURY-CONTAINING ITEMS

oes this season find you with a stock of new gadgets and a cache of old batteries or other household extras that you need to dispose or recycle? The City of Sunnyvale provides several options for the safe disposal of unwanted household products containing hazardous materials, thus helping to prevent

residents, garbage collectors and the environment from being unnecessarily exposed to toxins.

Find Your Mercury-Containing Toxic Household Products

This winter and post-holiday season is a good time of year to look for, and dispose of, unwanted household items containing mercury. Common household items that may contain mercury include fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, household batteries, some thermometers and thermostats.

Disposal and Recycling Options for Sunnyvale Residents

1. Curbside – Household batteries can be recycled at curbside.

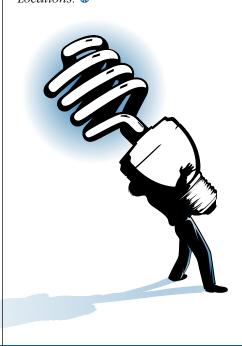
Tape ends, put in a heavy-duty, sealed plastic bag and place on top of the split-lid recycling cart.

2. SMaRT Station® – Fluorescent bulbs or tubes may be taken to the SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road, daily between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., at no charge. You may also bring unwanted electronic products to the SMaRT Station for safe and

legal recycling or disposal without charge.

3. Local Retail Shops – for Fluorescent bulbs and tubes

Many retail stores in Santa Clara County now accept fluorescent bulbs and tubes at their stores during regular business hours. For a complete list, go to the Household Hazardous Waste home, www. hbw.org, and under the Mercury Education Project link click on Fluorescent Light Bulb Drop-off Locations. ©



JUNK MAIL - HOW TO GET OFF THOSE LISTS

It's good to recycle your junk mail. It's even better to stop getting it. Reducing junk mail gets clutter out of your mailbox, frees up your time and helps protect the environment. You are just a click away from receiving a

kit that will help you get off those pesky lists. Visit www.stopjunkmail.org to get your kit today.

It takes 17 trees to a ton of paper. That means nearly 100 million trees get used for junk mail every year in the U.S. Keep the trees in the forest, and get the junk mail out of your life.



SUNNYVALE VOLUNTEERS HELP CLEAR TRASH FROM COASTLINE

Look around the next time you walk down the street. When it rains, trash on sidewalks and streets accumulates in the gutter and is swept into the City's storm drain collection system, which flows directly to the Bay and, eventually, the ocean. This accumulation of trash has grown to be a large problem in the Pacific Ocean.

On September 19, Sunnyvale hosted an International Coastal Cleanup Day site. This worldwide event focuses on marine environment pollution prevention by collecting litter from waterways and beaches. Forty-seven volunteers cleaned more than one mile of bank along the Guadalupe Slough, near the Water Pollution Control Plant Treatment Ponds. Approximately 675 pounds of litter and 103 pounds of mostly plastic recyclable materials were collected in less than three hours.

The most common items found included plastic beverage bottles (more than 300), styrofoam packing material (more than 320), Toys and balls (more than 240) and shotgun shells (more than 260).

A few of the more unusual items found during the clean-up included a 26-inch TV set, Venetian blinds and a fire extinguisher. All this litter was prevented from reaching the Bay and ocean. Collecting the letter ultimately protected the wild and aquatic life that call these areas home.

For more information on how to help with future clean-up events, contact Sunnyvale's Environmental Outreach Division at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501, or visit WPCP.inSunnyvale.com.

SNAP TRAINING PROGRAM

he Sunnyvale Neighborhood Actively Prepare (SNAP) training program trains members of the Sunnyvale community to be prepared for disasters. Participants who take the entire series of classes learn a wide range of valuable skills, including: disaster preparedness, gas and electrical safety, fire safety and suppression, incident command system, understanding terrorism, disaster medical operations, critical incident stress management, START Triage, quick hazards and safety assessment, and light search and

"It's easy to put disasters in the back of our minds letting our daily life's priorities take center stage," said Arley C. Marley, who has been a SNAP captain for more than 10 years. "The SNAP Program provides the key survival elements needed for most disasters and the skills you learn can help save lives."

The SNAP training program is held on seven consecutive Thursday evenings, with a final Saturday class. The first session, Disaster Preparedness Utilities and Your Safety, will be held Thursday, January 14. Upon completion of the training, a certificate will be awarded along with SNAP safety gear. A one-time \$11 fee covers the cost of refreshments. For more information, or to sign up, call Sunnyvale's Office of Emergency Services at (408) 730-7190 or visit SNAP.inSunnyvale.com. ©



WHEN IT RAINS IT GROWS

ith winter rains come spring weeds, which in addition to being unsightly, are prohibited by City code. Sunnyvale Municipal Code prohibits weeds on residential property as well as on sidewalks, streets, alleys and the landscaping strip between the sidewalk and curb, also know as the park strip.

Weeds are non-native plants that can be very serious pests. When these plants are introduced into natural areas, they overwhelm native vegetation and degrade the environment for wildlife and residents alike. Weeds must be removed before they flower, produce new leaves or go to seed. Once weeds flower, there is a danger that the seeds will mature on the plants even after they are pulled.

The City encourages non-chemical strategies for controlling weeds, including hand weeding, mulching, competitive planting and mowing.

In addition to weeds, the winter rain may cause plants and trees in your front yard and park strip to grow over the sidewalk or street. Sunnyvale Municipal Code prohibits any type of vegetation from obstructing pedestrian travel or vehicular traffic.

Any overgrown vegetation must be trimmed to the edge of the sidewalk or curb. Low-hanging trees limbs need to be trimmed to at least seven feet above the sidewalk, and 13 ½ and a half

feet above the street. To report overgrown City trees located in the park strip, contact Public Works at (408) 730-7505.

Weeds and overgrown vegetation are a public nuisance. It is the property owner's responsibility to remove weeds and cut back overgrown vegetation from their property. If property owners fail to remove weeds or prune overgrown vegetation, the City may issue administrative citations until compliance is met.

For additional information or to report a violation, contact Neighborhood Preservation at (408) 730-7610, TDD (408) 730-7501, or via e-mail at np@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

Tree Recycling in Sunnyvale

esidents of the City of Sunnyvale may recycle their holiday trees as part of the City's normal recycling collection process. Residents with curbside service may either put their tree in their yard trimmings cart making sure the cart's lid can still close - or place it at the curbside on any regular service collection day. Extra garbage tags are not required for holiday tree collection. Both flocked and unflocked trees may be recycled. To prepare trees for

also be cut into four-foot lengths to fit in the collection truck.

Trees may also be taken to

Trees may also be taken to the SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except December 25 and January 1. Normal fees for yard materials will be charged.

Residents of apartments should contact their property manager for details about tree recycling and collection where they live.



SUNNYVALE FARMERS' MARKET

The Sunnyvale Farmers' Market has temporarily relocated to the Sunnyvale Caltrain Station parking lot at Evelyn and Frances avenues. This location will be used during the Murphy Avenue construction project which should be completed in spring 2010.

The market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. For additional information, contact Urban Village at (510) 745-7100, or visit them online at www.urbanvillageonline.com.



URBAN VILLAGE FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION

SATURDAYS 9:00 - 1:00

OPEN RAIN OR SHINE

www.UrbanVillageOnline.com

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Community, Too

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■ Holiday Extras – Donate to Your

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